

REMARKS

By this Amendment claim 1 has been replaced by new claim 8 which more clearly defines the inventive method, claim 2 has been amended to depend from claim 8, claim 3 has been canceled, claim 4 has been amended to better define the inventive apparatus, and claims 6 and 7 have been amended to better define the intended subject matter. Entry is requested.

In the outstanding final Office Action the examiner has rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taub et al. in view of DaSilva et al. The inventor asserts that this rejection must be withdrawn.

Taub et al. was disclosed in the Amendment filed on September 18, 2006. They do not disclose use of a horizon line for reference as their machining tool is used to drill into the bone.

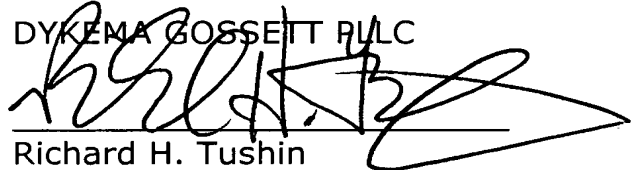
DaSilva et al. disclose a dental drill that includes one or multiple single mode fibers to image the vicinity of the drill tip.

However, no combination of Taub et al. and DaSilva et al. would suggest the method or apparatus as now claimed.

Respectfully submitted,

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